



# Wellesley Park Primary School

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

27th May 2022

## Headteacher's Comment



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the last newsletter of this half term, and what a beautifully sunny and eventful day we have had! I hope that you have all enjoyed today's events, and that it has helped to set your Jubilee mood for the upcoming half term holiday.

Talking of holidays, I would like to set a **whole school challenge**: for every family to read a new, never-before-read book together. Whether it is one you have had on the shelf for a while, one you have borrowed from a library, or a new one chosen together from a bookshop - it really doesn't matter - but what does matter, is that you read it together. Reading has **astonishing** benefits for children: bringing **comfort and reassurance, confidence and security, relaxation, happiness and fun**. Giving a child time and full attention, when reading them a story, tells them they matter. It builds self-esteem, vocabulary, feeds imagination and even improves their sleeping patterns.

As a reward for this achievement, all children who bring their newly read book into school, to share and talk about on the first Monday back after half term, will get **10 dojo points** for their school team - so the competition is well and truly on...!

I would like to say a **MASSIVE** well done to all our brave and intrepid Year 6 pupils, who completed their full week, activity residential last week. From the look of all the photos they certainly enjoyed and challenged themselves, and we are extremely proud of them all, for managing such great independence and resilience, whilst away from home. They will have created memories to cherish for a lifetime, and hopefully, developed some confidence and new skills along the way. Well done Team 6, and many thanks to the adults who supported them!

Finally, I would like to remind all parents / carers of three important diary dates coming up.

- The first is an invite to join me and our wonderful **PTA** (Parent Teacher Association) for our next meeting on **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June**. We will be meeting in school for coffee, cake and a chat from 6pm, with a meeting start time of 6.30pm. Meetings last for approximately one hour. So, if you are a new WP parent / carer or family friend, PLEASE do come and join us, we really, really need more support for our upcoming and very exciting events. We promise meetings will be fun, friendly, and positive ( involving CAKE!!) - so please don't be shy, come and join us!
- Secondly, and please make sure you book this date in your diaries: **Strawberry and Pimms evening on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July, from 6pm to 7.30pm**. This will be linked with our **Learning Showcase and Year 6 Pupils V Teachers' rounders match**. More information will be released shortly...so watch this space and keep the date free!
- Thirdly, please remember to plan for our **Sports Day on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July**. As part of this day, all parents/carers/family and friends will be invited to enjoy a **picnic** on our school field, over the lunch time period. We would love to have as many families as possible for this event, to really create a sense of fun and community!

In the meantime, please do have a wonderful, safe and enjoyable half term, and **don't forget the reading challenge!**

Best wishes and as always, thank you for your support,

Mrs Hartley-Criddle

*Mrs Emmie Hartley-Criddle*

Head of School DSL

SENDCo

## Staffing Update

During our fabulous Celebration Assemblies yesterday, we said our farewells to Mrs Wooding, as she embarks on her new adventures as a PFSA in Taunton, and welcomed our newly appointed Pastoral Lead: Mrs Katie Acott. Mrs Acott will divide her time for the summer term, between her current TA role and her new Pastoral Lead role, moving to full time Pastoral Lead from September. I know that Mrs Acott will be a great asset to our Pastoral team, and she will be available for chats on the playground before school 8.30-8.45am every Thursday for the summer term - so please do go and say hello!

In addition, Mrs Rebecca Wyatt, who has been supporting us temporarily in the school office, also moves on one week after half term. We have been extremely grateful for Mrs Wyatt's help and support since Easter, and we hope that she comes back to visit us often!

We currently have a few adverts on our school website for 'cover' positions including Admin / Midday Supervisors / Class Teachers and 'Dukes', our wrap-around care provision. If you are interested in any of these roles, please do contact the school office, and we will be happy to talk things through with you.

Alternatively, if you could share the link to our vacancies through your social media pages, we would be very grateful: [Vacancies \(wellesleyparkschool.co.uk\)](http://wellesleyparkschool.co.uk)

We will, also, soon be advertising for Teaching Assistants for September, including 1:1 and class support, so if this is something that you feel enthusiastic about, please do keep an eye on our vacancy pages!

In addition, we really need to add to our school Governor numbers; this does not have to be a parent of a child at Wellesley Park, but could be a professional you know, a family friend or a relative with some time to share. They would just need to be passionate about supporting our wonderful school, and keen to ensure that our pupils receive the very best education, throughout their time at Wellesley Park.

Please do contact the school office if you, or someone you know, would be able to support us with this.

Finally, from September, we are keen to be able to set up a strong group of **'reading' volunteers**. These volunteer readers will help us to support any child who needs to be reading to an adult more regularly, in order to achieve accelerated progress in this area.

Our hope is that the group would be able to join us for just a couple of hours a week as a minimum, or more if any can spare the time! We will provide a package of initial training and coaching sessions for all volunteers, so that each kind helper feels confident about 'how' to hear a child read, what questions to ask, and how to help them with their phonetic decoding and fluency.

Again, if you (or a grandparent, aunty, uncle or friend!) are interested in becoming a highly-valued member of our **WP Reading Volunteer Team**, then please do contact our school office, **as soon as possible**, so that we can begin both the DBS clearance checks required for all volunteers, prior to September, and book in the training sessions.

Your help would be much appreciated!

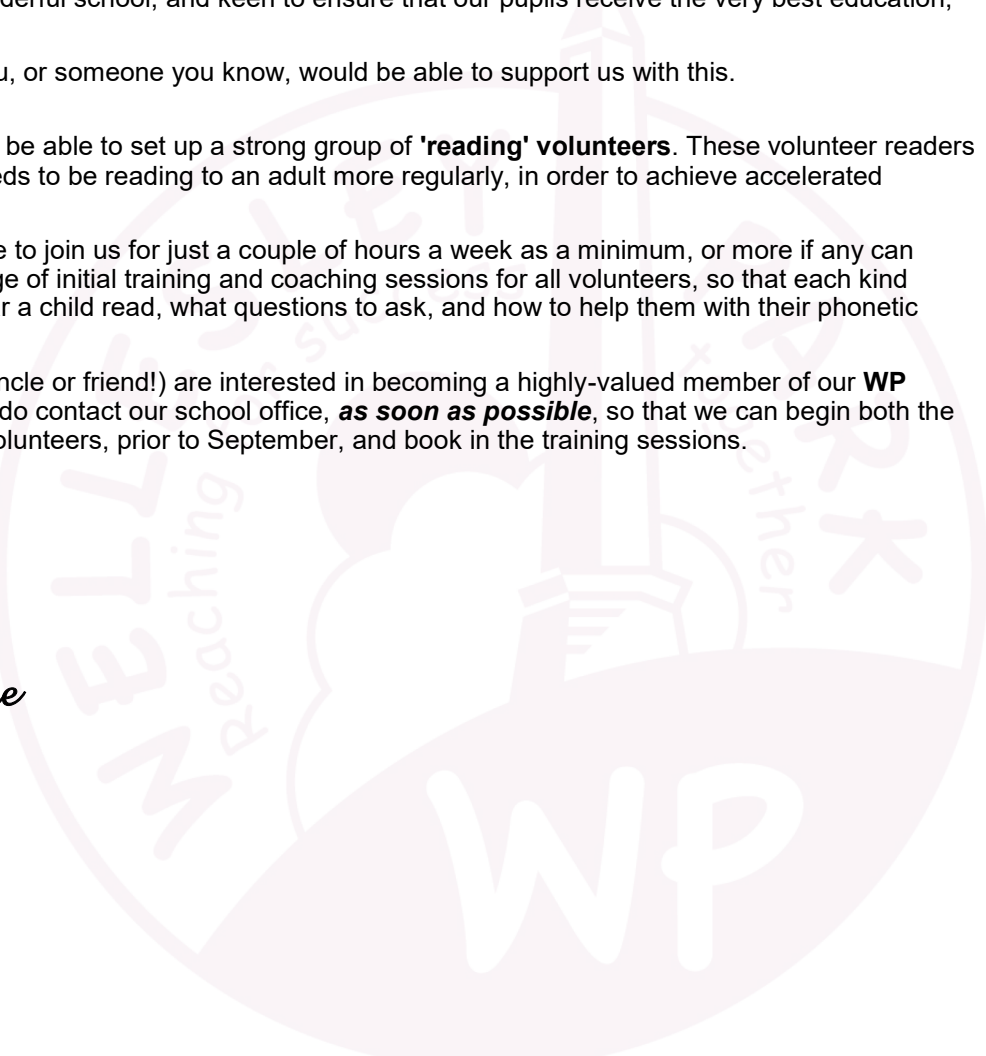
Many (hopeful!) thanks in advance.

**Mrs Hartley-Criddle**

*Mrs Emmie Hartley-Criddle*

Head of School DSL

SENDCo



## Safeguarding

A reminder to all parents / carers that the NSPCC website offers some great advice, on a wide range of child / parenting issues, along with what to do, and who to contact if you have any concerns regarding the safety or welfare of a child: [Keeping children safe | NSPCC](https://www.nspcc.org.uk)



## [Keeping children safe | NSPCC](https://www.nspcc.org.uk)

Support and tips to help you keep children safe. From advice on children's mental health to staying safe online, support for parents, and what to do if you're worried about a child. Children starting school or work, and taking part in activities can be both exciting and worrying. We've got tips ...

[www.nspcc.org.uk](https://www.nspcc.org.uk)

## SEND

If your child is currently on our school's main SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) register, or we as a school feel they should be placed on it for September, then you will receive a letter either confirming, or informing you of this before the summer holidays. School is not required to seek permission to do this, but we do believe that it is only right and courteous to let you know.

The criteria for children being placed on our register is very specific, for example: the child may be working 18 months to 2 years behind their peers, may require additional to and/or different from provision to their peers, over a sustained period of time, or may have needs that significantly impact on their educational success in school.

Having a 'diagnosis', for example: dyslexia, sensory processing issues, hypermobility or ADHD, does not automatically mean your child will be placed on our main SEND register, as they would still need to additionally meet the aforementioned criteria. Many children (and adults!) manage perfectly well, even if they do have a recognised condition or need.

We review our main SEND register half-terminally, and do a full review at the end of each year.

As always, if you have any concerns for your child regarding possible SEND, then please do speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance. They will always then share this information with our SEND team, if they feel support is required.

Best wishes

**Mrs Hartley-Criddle**

*Emmie Hartley-Criddle*

Head of School

DSL

## Update from Mrs. Carly Wilkins (Headteacher)

Mrs Wilkins would like to let all parents and carers know that both she, and her new-born son, are doing well. This handsome addition to the Wilkins family has been named 'Brody', and he is being proudly looked after by his two big sisters, Ofelia and Verity.

Mrs Wilkins is keeping in regular touch with us all at Wellesley Park, and says she is missing us all very much, even though life with a new baby is keeping her very busy! Mrs Wilkins will be popping into school throughout the year, so our pupils and staff will still get to see her.

I know that you will join us in wishing Mrs Wilkins, and her family, the very biggest and warmest of congratulations!

**Mrs Hartley-Criddle**

*Emmie Hartley-Criddle*

Head of School

DSL

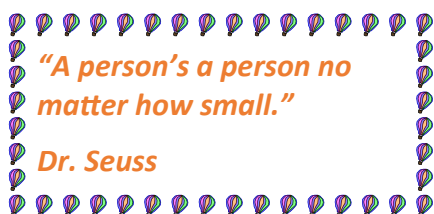
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## Attendance - by class for the period 25/04/2022 to 06/05/2022

Gruffalo	98.38%	Matilda	92.53%	Galadriel	94.89%
Jasper	94.23%	BFG	96.71%	Bagheera	98.15%
Kipper	98.04%	Hufflepuff	94.22%	Akela	96.86%
Mrs TW	95.30%	Gryffindor	94.89%		
Peter Rabbit	93.78%	Thorin	98.22%		

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



## Online Safety - What Parents Need to Know about Group Chats

Occurring through messaging apps, on social media and in online games, group chats are among the most popular ways that young people engage with their peers online. Involving, by definition, three or more individuals, these groups allow users to send messages, images and videos to everyone in one place. While they are useful for helping friends, people with shared interests or members of a club to communicate and coordinate activities, they can also leave young people feeling excluded and bullied, as well as providing opportunities for inappropriate content to be shared and viewed. A free online safety guide on group chats is available on the National Online Safety website and is attached with the newsletter. In the guide, you'll find tips on several potential risks such as bullying, inappropriate content and unknown members.

## Theatre, Events, Competitions & Summer Activity Camps - please refer to attached flyers

Chameleon Theatre are a local group performing 'The Jungle Book', a family show aimed at audiences of all ages. There are songs, humour and even a little audience participation. Many of the expected characters are in this version plus several more.

We have also received information on the Mid Devon Art Competition (closing date for entries 30th June), local events at the Axminster Guildhall and Summer Activity Camps at local schools. All details can be found in the attached flyers.

## Previous Newsletters

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

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

## 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 and click on 'follow' to link our posts to your newsfeed: <https://www.facebook.com/WellesleyParkPrimarySchool>



## Job Vacancies

We currently have the following job vacancies:

- Midday Supervisor: 4.15 hours per week, Monday to Friday 12.30pm to 1.20pm, Term Time & 3 inset days
- Out of School Club Assistant: 3 hours per week, Friday 3pm to 6pm, Term Time & 3 inset days
- Admin Assistant (Maternity Cover): 21 hours per week, Monday to Friday 9.00am to 1.15pm, Term Time & 3 inset days

Further details and the application forms will be available on the Vacancies section of our school website:

[Vacancies \(wellesleyparkschool.co.uk\)](http://wellesleyparkschool.co.uk)

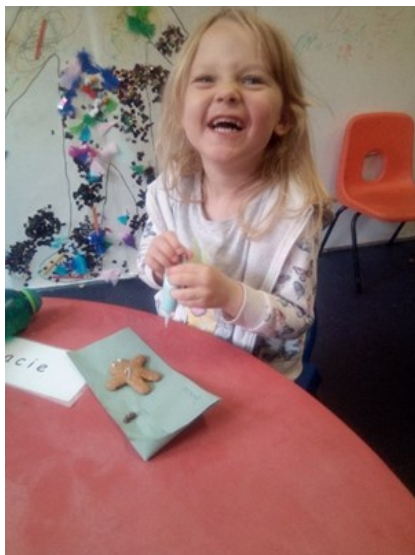


## Pre-school

Pre-school have been busy with their story 'Keep Running Gingerbread Man'.

We have made and decorated gingerbread men, learning about number, weight, following a recipe, taking turns and used an array of different motor skills! Some of us have tried out our pencil control taking the gingerbread man through the trail.

Did you know it's the Queen's jubilee? We have been making flags, crowns, royal yachts and creating portraits of the Queen in a variety of mediums. It was great fun testing our yachts to see if they would float... they floated to start with, but then they sunk! Did you know that when paper gets soggy it sinks?



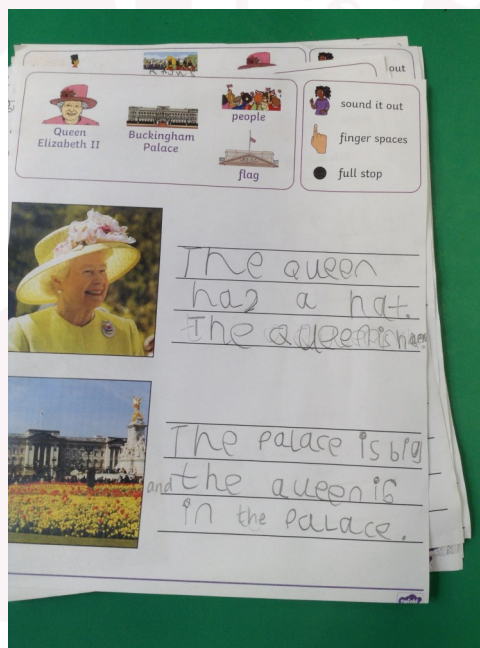
## Reception

Reception Class have been very busy practising their writing this week! They have written sentences all about the Queen, and have really enjoyed finding out about her life and where she lives. I am so proud of their writing - they are now confidently writing in sentences with a capital letter, finger spaces and a full stop.

During PE and Outdoor Learning this week, the children loved playing 'Duck, Duck Goose', and making masks of various jungle animals.

We have read lots of different books this week, including 'The Queen's Knickers' and 'Why are you there Bear?'

In Maths we have learnt all about doubling numbers up to 10, and have started looking at odd and even numbers, and sharing.



## Year 1

What a busy last week of term! We have continued to work super hard, and are looking forward to a well earned rest!

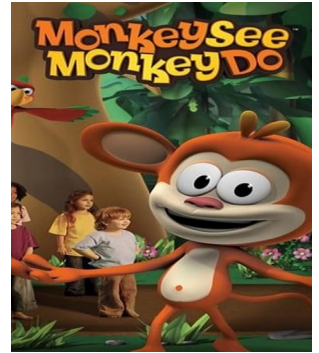
We have completed our 'Talk for Writing' topic on 'Monkey See, Monkey Do!', and the innovations the children came up with were fantastic! It really gave the children the chance to showcase their ideas and knowledge of adjectives for description, story openers and endings.

We have also finished our multiplication and division topic in maths, as well as fractions! The children have been exploring halves and quarters, knowing how to half and quarter shapes and amounts.

In science, we have continued with our plant topic, looking at what a plant needs to grow, as well as looking at trees, including evergreen and deciduous trees!

We thoroughly enjoyed making our collages of the Queen for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, and also learning about why this is such a fantastic celebration!

We hope you have a fabulous half term, and thank you for your continued support with everything.



## Year 2

The children in Year 2 have worked extremely hard this half term, completing all of their booklets. We were able to celebrate this with a film afternoon, where the children got to watch either 'Luca' or 'Frozen 2'.

In Maths, over the last couple of weeks, we have been focussing on position and direction. The children have been using their knowledge of left and right. They have also been introduced to turns of either clockwise, or anti-clockwise, and seeing whether these were quarter, half or three quarter turns. We have been doing lots of practical lessons, where the children have been listening to instructions, or giving instructions of movements.

We are looking forward to celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, and are super excited to see everyone's crowns. The children have been working hard on their Queen portraits, which we hope you enjoy coming to see.

We hope you all have a lovely half term, and we are looking forward to seeing you for the final term of Year 2!



## Year 3 - Cricket Workshop

Matilda had a cricket workshop on Monday, which they really enjoyed. They had the chance to practise many of the skills needed to play cricket, and showed off their brilliant throwing and batting skills.

Some pictures of the workshop are included below, for you to see how fantastic they were!



## Year 4

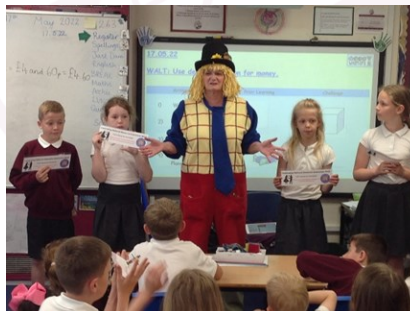
What another great couple of weeks we have had in Year 4, and we can't quite believe it is the end of term already!

The children have worked hard in all areas, but we have been particularly impressed with their English this week. They wrote their own 'portal stories', where the main character gets transported somewhere else through a magical portal! The children gave great description, focus and amazing imagination – well done all!

In Maths, we have been working on money, looking at the different coins and notes, and their values. We have looked at how to add and subtract values, and will move on to think about giving correct change.

One of the highlights of the last fortnight was our visit from Archie, the representative of the Archie Project, aiming to raise awareness for dementia. The children were taught some interesting facts about physical activity, and how this has been shown to reduce the chances of developing dementia. We therefore all participated in a 'Dance for Dementia'. Lots of fun was had by all, including in a conga line on the playground!

We hope you all have a fantastic half term, and get lots of rest and time outside with your families. Please don't forget to keep practising your times tables too! Have a great break, and we will see you in June!



## Year 5

What a wonderful and eventful half term in Year 5!

We have enjoyed the delights of our school trip to the Taunton Museum, Bikeability for many cyclists in Year 5, junk modelling aircrafts based on our 'Reading as a Reader' book, 'Brightstorm', many science investigations involving testing materials, and much, much more!

This week the children enjoyed a visit from Tom, from Dynamo cricket. We had an assembly where he gave us some information about the Dynamo cricket club, which is starting in Wellington in July. We then had a 45-minute cricket session with him, learning skills such as catching, bowling, batting and fielding! Everyone had so much fun! The children came home with a leaflet and wristband, which gives more information about the Dynamo Cricket. Further information can be found here: [dynamocricket.co.uk](http://dynamocricket.co.uk).

In Maths, we are finishing the topic of decimals, and have learnt a lot about adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing decimals by 10, 100 and 1000.

In Reading and English, we have been exploring poetry and the language features poets use to create description, to draw the reader in. Poetry can be like solving a puzzle to find the hidden meanings in phrases and words. The children have been exploring William Blake's 'The Tyger' poem. The children focussed on the language he uses, and how he is trying to describe the tiger. We have also had a go at making our own version.

The whole team wish you a happy and safe half term, and look forward to seeing you all in June.

Enjoy the Jubilee celebrations over the coming week!





## Year 6

WOW! What a busy, but wonderful couple of weeks! The children and adults had an amazing time away on camp.

Every child challenged themselves, tried new things and had an excellent attitude to all of the activities. The overall highlights were: Canoeing, Axe throwing, Water sliding, Rifle shooting, Climbing, Crate Stack and the Leap of Faith.

This week, we have continued our 'Tale of Fear' topic in English. The children have used alliteration, onomatopoeia, and hid the threat to provoke terror for the reader.

On Monday, we went swimming for the first time, and were overwhelmed by the confidence and resilience shown.

In PE, the children have been developing their badminton skills, as shown in the pictures, and enjoyed a cricket engagement session to promote Dynamo Cricket.

We have been enjoying additional learning about the Platinum Jubilee, and linked this to our History and Art work.

Finally, in Guided Reading, we have looked at two more survival stories based on a volcanic eruption, and a girl who was frozen.

