



# Wellesley Park Primary School

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Wellesley Park Primary School  
Homefield, Wellington  
Somerset, TA21 9AJ

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## Headteacher's Comment

Dear Parents and Carers

It's hard to believe that we are at the end of this very short and very busy half term. As we enter February there is optimism as the light stays longer into the afternoon and even around the school there is evidence of bulbs appearing through the grass.

There have been so many highlights to celebrate in these past few weeks: Jack and the Beanstalk Pantomime, Yr 1 multi-skills event, on-line safety workshops, sandwich making, First Aid assembly, to name a few.

## Staffing update

Last week, we welcomed Mrs MacCormick to our teaching team, who is covering Miss Hill's maternity leave in Henson class (Yr4).

We are delighted to announce that Mrs White and her husband are expecting their second child towards the end of July. In the coming weeks, we will begin the recruitment process to appoint a new teacher to join Wellesley Park.

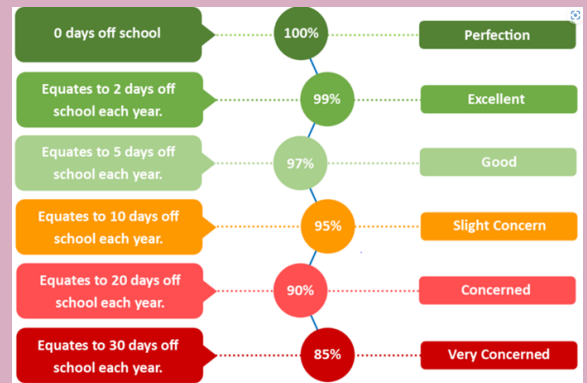
Mrs Pilling is excited to be retuning back to work from her maternity leave, on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March, to teach Yr 5 in Attenborough class. We have a planned handover in place to ensure a smooth transition. Therefore, Mr McFadzean's last day in year 5 will be on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February. However, I'm sure that you will still see him in school covering classes when needed.

Next half-term, we also welcome Mrs Bambridge to our school team as Mid-Day Supervisor and afternoon TA for year 2/3.

## Attendance

As you are aware, there is a national campaign to improve school attendance and is also a key priority within our school. We are currently on 95.5% - which has dipped since last half-term and is just below our target of 96%.

Individual attendance will be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis. We would like to kindly remind parents that the school's expectations for individual pupil attendance is 95% and above. Should your child fall behind the school's expectations a monitoring process is triggered, and we may ask you to come into school to discuss your child's attendance with us. If you would like any support with your child's attendance then please contact the school office or speak to your child's class teacher.



## PTA School Disco

My thanks to our brilliant PTA and all the staff and parents who are supporting the PTA school disco this evening.

As always, thank you for your support and enjoy your half term break.



## Attendance - by class for this half term

Peake	97.2%	Norgay	97%	Shackleton	96.4%
Darwin	93.7%	Sharman	94.2%	Earhart	96.4%
Henson	97.4%	Attenborough	96.8%	Armstrong	96.8%
Cousteau	96.4%	Spruce	95.2%	Bell	95.5%
Kingsley	92.1%				

## Wellesley Park School Values

Our value for this half-term is Tolerance.

*“How do we show tolerance at home?”*

*“What will you do at home to show more tolerance?”*



## Safeguarding

After half term there will be a slight change to our safeguarding team. Please note the changes in the attached poster so you are aware who to contact should you have a safeguarding concern.

## Policy Updates

The following policies/documents have recently been updated and can be found on our school website:

- WP 2025/26 Admission Arrangements

[Wellesley Park Primary School | Home \(wellesleyparkschool.co.uk\)](https://wellesleyparkschool.co.uk)



## Parking

Please can we remind parents and carers of the importance of parking safely for school drop-off / pick up. There should also be no parking, under any circumstances, on the zig-zag lines at the entrance of the school. This could endanger the lives of children on their way to and from school.

Respect should also be shown to our local residents and private properties. Please do not block driveways or use them to turn around.

We are fortunate to have three entrances in to the school grounds. If Homefield is busy and you are unable to park in a safe and suitable place, please use one of the other available entrances to school.

The PCSOs will be increasing their presence at drop off and pick up.

Thank you.

## Duke's Bookings

Duke's breakfast and after school club sessions for the next half-term are now available to book on magicbooking - <https://wellesleyparkschool.magicbooking.co.uk/>



## Online Safety Update - Safer Internet Day

### Tips for keeping safe online

Research launched for Safer Internet Day reveals that young people are excited about changes in online technology but express the need for conversation and better support.

The research found that three quarters (74%) of parents and carers, and just under half (45%) of children have worries about safety as developments with artificial intelligence (AI), virtual reality (VR) and new social media apps continue to accelerate.

It found that 80% of children and young people think that young people should be listened to more about changes in technology, such as how it can remain safe.

The research also reveals low awareness of the [Online Safety Act](#), a new law which prioritises the safety of children online and places new duties on social media companies around the content shared on their platforms.

To feel more knowledgeable in how you can support your child to stay safe and happy online, the UK Safer Internet Centre have put together a [guide](#).



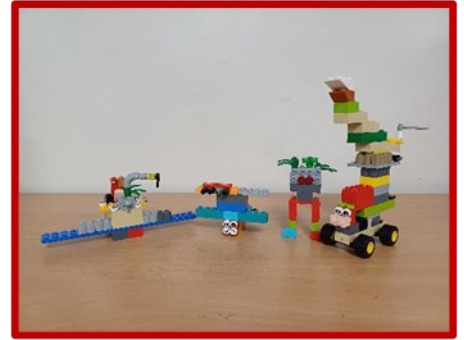
## Pastoral Support Update from Mrs Bagnell

We have had a few creative weeks with our social and communication groups (and a few hot chocolates).

We have been thinking of all the different strengths we have and what makes us special and unique.

We built robots out of Lego, everyone had to think of a strength the other members of the group have, they then presented them to the group. Some of the strengths that we came up with are:

Kind                      Honest                      Caring                      Thoughtful  
Friendly                      Sporty                      Brave



Salt dough is a firm favourite, not just because it's lovely and squishy and makes a great sensory experience but you can make any shape/sculpture that you want out of it. We all seem to enjoy making food here at Wellesley Park!

If you want to try it at home this half-term:

250g – Plain Flour

125g – Salt

125ml – Water

Combine all together in a bowl.



The half-term break is nearly here. If you are looking for some ideas for family days out, the below website could be helpful. Scan the QR code or click the link to find out more. Down Somerset Way - [Down Somerset Way - A local's guide to Somerset](#)



## Wellesley Park Explorers

Hello - from our Explorers!!

Our theme for Nursery is 'fantasy' this term!

The children have been having fun with all things fantasy - we've had Wizards, Pirates, Fairies, Knights/castles/Aliens/ Unicorns and Dragons.

We've explored the seven seas and created Pirate ships - this painting helps us develop and improve our muscles for writing.

The children then travelled into space, where we talked about 'Aliens' and where they might live! Some children were interested about the planet we live on. We had lots of rockets and space themed toys for them to pretend to be a 'spaceman'. The ladies put out some green jelly in a tray - this felt all slimy and cold, one child even tasted it! 'Umm it tastes yummy!'

For the last week before half term, we asked the children to come in, in their favourite costume from home! We had, Pirates, Princesses, Mermaids, Paw patrols, Ballerina's, Elsa's/Anna's, Butterflies, Fairies and a Tiger! Wow they all looked great!

And lastly this week - we are learning about Chinese New Year! We are learning that the colour 'Red' is a lucky colour for the Chinese people and they celebrate it each year, by having a party with their families. The children have watched a short video about the parade dragon that is 200ft long!!! The children even got to try some 'Noodles' for snack with prawn crackers! Yummy!

We hope everyone has a lovely half term - see you all in a week.





## Reception

The Reception children have been busy this term! In our learning about 'Understanding The World' we have been finding out about what it is like to live in the Arctic. We have found the Arctic on the globe and looked at how far away it is from where we live. We have used picture books and non-fiction texts to find out about the animals that live there. The children have talked about what is similar and what is different to life here in the UK.

In our Literacy work we have been learning about 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' and have looked at instructions. We sequenced instructions for how to brush your teeth. We wrote a list of fillings you would need to make sandwiches. The next day we made sandwiches and the children really enjoyed having a sandwich picnic outside!



## Year 1

We cannot believe this is the last week of this half term, where is the time going?! We have had an amazing half term and we are over the moon with the progress our Year 1's have made.

In English, we have finished our fiction topic on The Magic Porridge Pot and the children's innovated stories were fantastic to read. They took the layout of the original story and really used their imaginations to make it their own! It was wonderful to see them put their learning into practise with them using a variety of verbs, speech verbs, similes and descriptions of settings using their senses to describe! They are really building their toolkits now for good story telling features!

In Maths, we finished our place value to 20 topic and began addition and subtraction within 20. So far, we have looked at how our number bonds to 10 can help us with our number bonds to 20, we have looked at doubles and using these to find near doubles too. This topic will continue in the next half term.

We have also finished all of the topics in our foundation subjects, including animals in Science, drawing in Art, explorers in History and technology around us in Computing. We can't wait to begin our new topics next half term.

We hope you all have a wonderful half term and we will see you in a week!

Miss Winsor and Miss Barrell



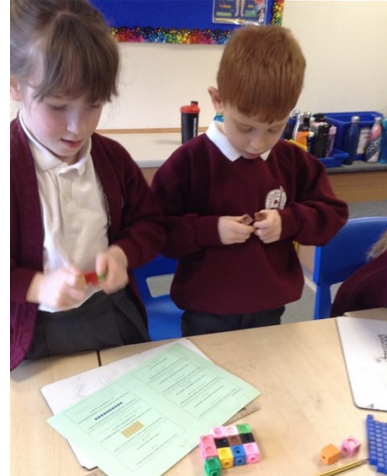
## Year 2/3

We have been super busy in year 2/3 and the children have all worked hard to complete their science unit on the human body. To show off all their fantastic learning they have created posters which explain how the human body works including the organs, skeleton and muscles and joints. It has been a topic they seem to have really enjoyed. After half term we will be looking at the life cycle of plants.

In English we have been getting to know the structure of instructional texts and how to use 'bossy' verbs to make commands. The children have had opportunities to write our own sets of instructions for various things including recipes for their sandwiches, cereal and making up their own playground games.

In maths the children have been focusing on multiplication and division. So far, they have learned lots about arrays and grouping to make equal amounts. The children have all been practicing their times tables recall too. We will be continuing division and multiplication after half term.

We hope you all have a well deserved and restful half term.



## Year 4

After writing their discussion texts, the children have now been exploring newspaper reports, where they have been brilliant in identifying key features and have begun to write their own. From super strikers to disco dancers, their newspaper reports certainly will stand out in the Wellesley News!

The children have absolutely loved '*The Wild Robot*' (to the point we have purchased the sequels in class!) with lots of positive reviews. The book had the children on a rollercoaster of emotions from laughs to even some tears at the ending, but safe to say it is a year group favourite!

In maths, we have been exploring the perimeter of polygons where the children have shown fantastic reasoning in their explanations to one another. To finish the half-term off, we have had our practise MTC test and we have been blown away by the children's continuous rapid progress; it is clear to see how hard each child works both at school and at home.

As promised, with such an engagement into our Roman topic, the children made their own shields, following their designs. While in the drill square, they followed the commands perfectly and moved into each of the 3 formations we have studied. Safe to say they made truly fierce soldiers!





## Year 5

Wow! We can't believe we are already half way through the spring term. Year 5 have had a great few weeks, and have shown huge progress across all of their subjects.

In maths, we have come to the end of our unit on fractions, all the children have progressed wonderfully and it's been lovely to see their confidence grow, next term we will begin our unit on decimals and percentages. Remember to keep practising your times tables year 5!

In English we are half way through our focus on newspaper reports. The children have so many fantastic ideas and we can't wait to read their own newspaper reports in the next couple of weeks.

We have come to the end of our History unit, the Tudors, year 5 have really enjoyed this topic, especially acting out the 'War of the Roses'.

In DT the children have been designing and making their own sculptures out of clay, they are all absolutely fantastic and year 5 should be very proud of themselves!

Attenborough and Spruce class have thoroughly enjoyed forest school this half term, especially the s'mores and hot chocolate! Darwin will be having forest school during spring 2.

We hope you have a lovely and restful half term!



## Year 6

This half-term seems to have gone very quickly! Our Year 6s should feel very proud of what they have achieved so far in this their final year at WP! In particular, they should be proud of the determination and resilience they have shown this week which has been our Assessment Week. The children have been able to demonstrate through the assessments the areas of learning which they fully understand and the areas which we will be addressing in order to get them fully prepared for SATs week in May and their onwards transition to Secondary School.

In Maths, we have begun our fascinating Algebra unit. The children have been getting to grips with formula, equations and expressions. In Guided Reading, we are continuing our novel by the talented David Almond - Skellig. We have been analysing symbolism within the text along with the developing themes and character - we can't wait to find out what happens next!

In English, we are nearing the end of our Non-Fiction unit on Newspapers and in R.E. our Christianity unit has led us to consider a number of Christian stories relevant to salvation to include The Easter Story. In Geography our work on West Africa continues with the children exploring the diverse culture of the area alongside its physical and human geography.

Finally, in P.E. the children have had an amazing time putting together their gymnastic skills, working in teams to produce some fantastic displays!

