

9th February, 2024

Wherwell Primary School Newsletter

Let's Love To Learn And Thrive Together



Dear parents,

Where has the time gone, I can't believe that we are at the half way point of the year already! As they say, time flies when you are having fun. The children have been working really hard (and having fun) and I am so pleased at how calm and purposeful the learning environment is. Last week, our committed Governors conducted a learning walk on a Friday afternoon. This is a time in every school where there is the potential for off task, ready for the weekend behaviour. This was not the case, and Governors were impressed with the variety of exciting learning they saw as well as excellent behaviour and focus.

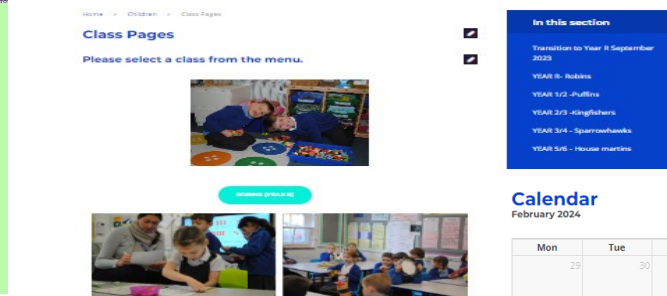
I am pleased to say that our learning unit outcomes have been very well attended. Thank you for coming in (if you were able to) to share the half term's learning with your child. I know how much the children look forward to this. Can I also take this opportunity to say thank you for the support you have given your children to complete their linked homework. This is intended to be a fun extension of the learning and you can spend as much or as little time as you can or wish. The projects have been amazing and it is lovely to see children proudly walking in with them, with big smiles on their faces.

Finally, I am pleased to say that we now have a new website. I hope you will find the information you need. The class page will be particularly useful as it contains the half term curriculum map so you can see what your child will be learning as well as important information about homework, PE, trips etc. In the Curriculum tab, you will be able to see our long term plans and progression documents as well as photo galleries to showcase our learning. Keep an eye on the calendar too. A website is never a finished project so if you have ideas on other content that you would find useful, please let us know.

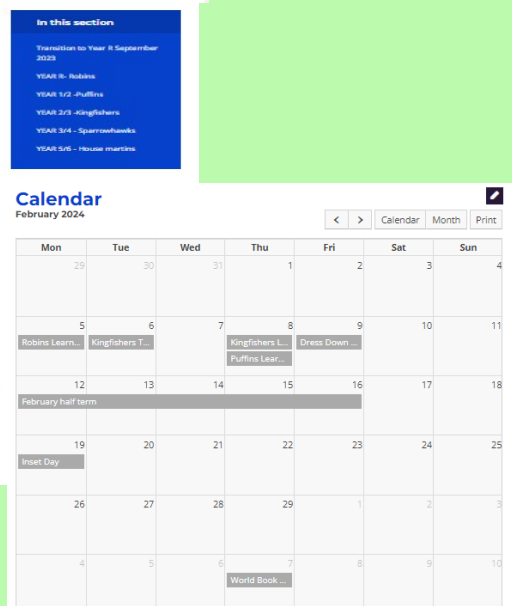
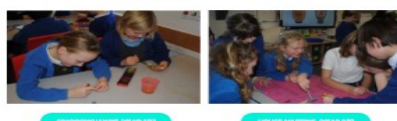
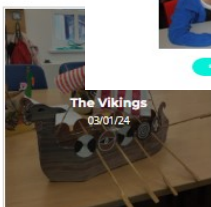
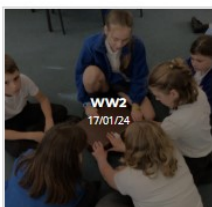
I hope you have a lovely half term break.

Best wishes,

Mandy



History in action





ROBINS

Robins have been creating some wonderful artwork based on the book Puffin Peter. We started by watching a video clip of the illustrator (who is also the author) creating a picture of Puffin Peter. We then gathered the resources that we needed (pencils, crayons, paint and watercolours) and followed step by step instructions to create our own Puffins. Finally, we used water colour paints to create a background picture of the sea or Puffin Peter's rocky island and we stuck our puffins onto our backgrounds. Robins Puffin Peter artwork all looks absolutely fantastic!



PUFFINS

Puffins have started to look at the book 'Float' by Daniel Miyares which is a wordless picture book. In the story the boy makes a paper boat which everyone in Puffins has had a go at making, it was quite tricky and a lot of folding was involved! We have used that activity to help us write instructions about how to make the boat and we shared what we learnt with Parents at our Learning Outcome on Thursday.

We have also been busy learning how to sew using a simple running stitch in DT whilst making our hats.





KINGFISHERS

Kingfishers had a lovely time at Winchester Science Centre on Tuesday. They started with a workshop in which they learnt about the James Webb Telescope. They learnt which materials would keep the telescope cool by learning about infrared light. They saw how light gets diffracted through special glasses. Kingfishers particularly enjoyed the Planetarium show where they learnt all about our solar system as well as some of the stars and constellations we can see from Earth.



SPARROWHAWKS

Sparrowhawks have been very busy with our Egyptian-themed work. In English, we have created a fact file about an Egyptian artefact. We were also very lucky to have The Drama Hut come and do an Egyptian workshop with the children where they created different freeze frames of Egyptian gods. Finally, Sparrowhawks have made clay sarcophaguses and toy mummies to go in them.





HOUSE MARTINS

It's been a busy end to the half-term in House Martins! The children thoroughly enjoyed their ancient Greeks drama workshop last week. We created some brilliant scenes demonstrating our knowledge of several aspects of ancient Greece. This week, the children have been making and painting ancient Greek inspired pottery with Mrs Hill.



Thank you!



Thank you to Bethany and her family for donating a wonderful selection of books to our school library in celebration of her birthday. The children are looking forward to enjoying reading them.

We are always extremely grateful for book donations and our Librarian Mrs Shone has an Amazon wish list, the link for which will shortly be on our new school website.



ANDOVER BLOCK HUNT

February Half Term Trail
Saturday 10th - Sunday 18th February
Andover Town Centre

FOR MORE INFO

www.inandover.co.uk/events/blockhunt



Parent Governor Vacancies

The Governing Body has vacancies for Parent Governors. Governors play a key role in the school, working as a team to provide support and challenge, and influencing strategies. As a parent Governor you would contribute ideas and influence decision making.

If you are interested in becoming a Parent Governor please email: admin@wherwell.hants.sch.uk

*** Safeguarding***

If you have any concerns regarding a child at our school please contact:
Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mrs Ovenden at m.ovenden@wherwell.hants.sch.uk or
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead, Miss P.gilbody@wherwell.hants.sch.uk
You can also call Children's Services on
0300 555 1384

Diary Dates

Activity	Date (New Dates)
HALF TERM	12th to 16th February
INSET Day	Monday 19th February
World Book Day - come as a favourite character	Thursday 7th March
Puffins and Robins Mothers' Day event—details to follow	Friday 8th March
Reports go home	Friday 15th March
Optional parents evening	Wednesday 20th March
House Martins outcome to parents at 2:50pm	Friday 22nd March
Kingfishers outcome to parents at 2:50pm	Tuesday 26th March
Sparrowhawks outcome to parents at 9:10am in school hall	Tuesday 26th March
Robins trip to Hilliers - details to follow	Tuesday 26th March
Robins and Puffins outcome to parents at 2:50pm	Wednesday 27th March
Student teachers last day in Sparrowhawks and Puffins	Thursday 28th March
Last day of school	Thursday 28th March
Easter Holiday	First day -Friday 29th March—Friday 12th April
Half Term Holiday	Monday 27th May—31st May
Year 6 SATS week	Monday 13th—16th May
Year 4/5 residential to Liddington	Monday 13th—Friday 17th May
INSET DAY	Monday 3rd June
Sports for Schools visitor	Friday 7th June
Year 6 residential to Runways End	Monday 10th—14th June
Class Photos	Wednesday 19th June
INSET DAY	Monday 15th July
Last day of term	Tuesday 23rd July
Sports Day	Thursday 11th July
Reserve Sports Day	Thursday 18th July