

Wherwell Primary School Newsletter


Let's Love To Learn And Thrive Together



What a busy and enjoyable start to the term we have had! All the children continue to think really carefully about using the power of having a growth mind-set and realising that effort leads to success. Faced with any challenge, we don't say, "I can't do it" but instead we say "I can't do it YET".

This week many of our Pupil Leaders have been selected. We have a School Council, Eco Champions, Playground Buddies, Librarians and House Captains and soon our Year 6 prefects will be chosen based on their application forms. I am looking forward to seeing the positive impact they will have on school life. Photos will be on the website very soon.

We have an exciting year ahead of us and will all be continuing to focus on making Wherwell the very best it can be. Our priorities for this year include:

<p>Wherwell Primary School Improvement Plan Summary</p> <p>2024 – 2025</p>  <p><i>Let's Love To Learn and Thrive Together</i></p>	<p>1) Quality of Education</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To continue to develop the non core curriculum for Cycle B ensuring clear progression of knowledge and skills To continue to embed assessment for learning strategies To ensure learning is effectively adapted to meet the needs of SEN learners To improve children's number fluency To further strengthen Writing outcomes To develop children's Scientific vocabulary and enquiry skills 	<p>2) Behaviour and Attitudes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To continue to maintain high standards of behaviour and conduct at all times. Continue to support children's understanding of what constitutes a healthy relationship on-line 	<p>4) Leadership and Management</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that safeguarding continues to be effective and robust To support the newly appointed SENDco and DH To support the newly appointed Mental Health leader To facilitate all Subject leaders to have the greatest impact in developing teaching and learning.
		<p>3) Personal Development</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To develop outdoor learning opportunities To develop children's mental health and well-being awareness To continue to develop children's learning behaviours 	<p>5) Early Years</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure the outdoor area provides exciting enriching learning opportunities To provide opportunities to further improve Literacy skills inside and outside the classroom

We will be working in partnership with our whole school community to support these areas and will keep you updated throughout the year on our progress. Thank you so much for the support you already provide and for helping to make the start of the school year such a positive one.

Have a super weekend,

Best wishes,

Mandy

Safeguarding

If you see or hear anything that worries you about a child's safety or well-being, you can speak to either:

Mandy Ovenden (Designated Safeguarding Lead and Headteacher) or
Pip Gilbody (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy Headteacher)

Alternatively, call Children's Services on

0300 555 1384



ROBINS

Robins Class enjoyed an afternoon colour hunting on the school field! The children worked in small groups and took a colour wheel picture with them for inspiration. Robins found a far larger variety of colours on the field than Miss Gilbody was expecting!

Robins Class also had their very first PE lesson with Mrs Robinson and Mrs Shone this week, they had loads of fun and are looking forward to more PE lessons next week.



PUFFINS

It's hard to remember now, but last week Puffins were out in the glorious sunshine for Outdoor Explorers making their own nature crowns! They found a wide array of leaves, seeds and feathers to add to their creations. Please do remember to send in waterproof clothing and wellies as the weather starts to turn colder and wetter, as we do intend to go out every Thursday afternoon.

In PSHE the children have been looking at different emotions and talking about how we can tell how someone may be feeling by looking at their face. They really enjoyed acting out all of the emotion emoji faces!

In Maths, we have been exploring the resources in the classroom and making sure that we're really secure with our counting and number recognition.





KINGFISHERS

Kingfishers have enjoyed a wide variety of activities recently. We had our box full of Mary Anning inspired artefacts which have got us really excited about being historians.

Kingfishers were complimented on their respectful use of the library by another member of staff this week. Mrs Tully told us she didn't even realise anyone was in the library until she walked though it! Miss Upton was delighted that she and the class received such a great compliment.



We have also been working hard to learn the new school computer system. This week we managed to log on and enter our google classroom. Then we used some links to explore the school website and then play a game on Hit the Button. A very successful session!



SPARROWHAWKS

In Sparrowhawks, we've been "tech-explorers", diving into the school's brand-new Chromebook software and cracking the code behind web addresses! We're uncovering how the online world is pieced together, one click at a time!



In history, we have explored the early life of King Alfred the Great and made fun fact files about his life - and not just that he reputedly burned the cakes!





HOUSE MARTINS

House Martins have been on an adventure back in time, exploring Ancient Mayan artefacts and diving into their mysterious past! They've been putting on their detective hats, imagining what these fascinating objects might have been used for. We've also been debating why people create replicas and how these ancient treasures unlock secrets of history, helping us piece together the story of the past!



Cross Country

On Tuesday, 12 children travelled to Wallop to take part in a cross country run. Luckily, the bad weather held off and the ground was dry. Despite a few lost shoes along the run, everyone did very well with some medal winners among us. Everyone showed great resilience and were fantastic. A massive thank you to the parents who transported the children.



Coats in School



Children need to burn energy and get fresh air, especially after a busy learning session. Now that we enter the cooler, wetter months, please ensure your child has a waterproof coat in school at all times so that we can make the most of our beautiful outdoor spaces, even when it's drizzling.



Early Birds Staff Vacancy

Our current Early Birds supervisor is moving off to pastures new. Could you be the replacement? Hours are 7.50am to 8.30am. You will be required to oversee children eating and playing, manage the register (full training provided) and clear down at the end of the session. Most of our teaching staff will be on site to support you if needed and a full hand-over from the incumbent job holder will take place. You will be entitled to free use of Early Birds AND Woodpeckers for your own child(ren) and will have first dibs in the Playing Fields car park in the mornings! Contract is Grade B1, term-time only and a full recruitment process will be completed.

Names in clothing

We are growing our lost and found collection quite nicely! Please ensure that all clothing items are labelled with your child's name (including outer-wear). This doesn't have to be an expensive job - even biro on a care label will last a few washes! Please check that all your child's clothing has a legible name in it and if you are missing something, pop along to the office and try and identify it from the growing pile of unclaimed lost things.



Volunteer Readers



Reading is the cornerstone of a child's education and reading regularly with a child, watching them develop their de-coding abilities and fluency is extremely rewarding. If you, or someone you know (a retired neighbour, a grandparent) would like the opportunity to come and help our young readers grow, please let the office know. We would welcome volunteers any day of the week, for an hour or so, ideally between 1pm and 3pm but offers of other times will be snapped up. Of course, anyone volunteering to read from 2pm to 3pm will be guaranteed a space in the car park! We will need to complete a DBS check for anyone interested.

Parent Governor Vacancies



Dear Parents,

We have vacancies for two parent governors which we need to fill as soon as possible. I would like to thank Kelly Orvis and Emma Eliot for all their incredible hard work as parent governors.

Wherwell Primary School has always aimed for a partnership with parents which undoubtedly brings great benefits to the children. One of the most significant ways you can help in promoting this aim is to volunteer to be a parent governor.

The governing body's main tasks are:

- to ensure that the school has a clear vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- to hold the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;
- to oversee the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Parent governors are welcomed as valued members of the team and play a vital role in ensuring the governing body is aware of the views of parents and the local community. We feel sure that there are parents prepared to take on this important role and give their time and commitment to helping us to continue to improve the school's performance.

Training and support will be available to help you develop into the role. This will include in-house mentoring and support as well as access to external governor training.

If you feel you can help in this capacity please contact the office for an application form which will need to be completed and returned to the school by 12.00 noon on **Friday 11th October, 2024**.

The guidelines giving full details about how vacancies are filled can be found on the school's website. You should also look at the information for prospective governors on the [Hampshire Governor Services website](#).

Please note that for the protection of children all governor appointments are subject to an identity check.

If there are more applications than vacancies, we will hold an election and you will be sent a voting paper in due course. You may return the ballot paper either via your child or by post.

Yours sincerely

Sean Hutton

Chair of Governors

Diary Dates

Activity	Date
Flu Immunisations - whole school	Thursday 10th October
Harvest Assembly - Wherwell Church (details to follow)	Thursday 17th October 10:45am
Open Morning - 2025, Year R intake	Monday 21st October 10:45am
Kingfishers learning outcome	Tuesday 22nd October 2:50pm
Puffins learning outcome	Tuesday 22nd October 2:45pm
Robins parent sharing session	Wednesday 23rd October 2:50pm
House Martins learning outcome - an assembly in school hall	Thursday 24th October 9:00am
Sparrowhawks learning outcome	Thursday 24th October 2:50pm
Last day of school	Friday 25th October
Half Term Holiday	Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November
Inset Day	Monday 4th November
Open Morning - 2025, Year R intake	Friday 8th November 10:45am
Walk to Wherwell War Memorial (details to follow)	Monday 11th November 11:00am
Individual Photographs - Fraser Portraits	Thursday 14th November
Inset Day	Monday 24th February
Inset Day	Monday 2nd June
Inset Day	Monday 14th July