

25th October, 2024



Wherwell Primary School Newsletter

Let's Love To Learn And Thrive Together

It's been a record breaking eight week half term but we've certainly made every moment count. Here are some of our highlights.



Personal Best Sports day (despite the rain)!



Mary Anning Workshop



Harvest Service



Cross country and girls' football at Wallop School

Well done to all of our children who have made a fantastic start to the 2024– 2025 academic year.

Whilst I do want children to relax and enjoy their half term holiday, tidy their bedrooms and help out with some chores, it is also important to spend time to enjoy a book and to practice number facts, in particular times tables. It is so crucial for children to know their times table facts and this takes time and practice. Did you know that by the end of Year 4, children should be able to recall and use multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12 X 12?

WHY ARE TIMES TABLES IMPORTANT?

SUPPORT LEARNING

Times tables serve as a building block for higher-level maths concepts.

With a strong understanding of multiplication, children will succeed with topics such as division, fractions, algebraic equations, and more!

STRENGTHEN LIFE SKILLS

Times tables have practical applications in our daily lives.

From calculating prices and discounts while shopping, to managing budgets, multiplication is an essential skill for financial literacy and general problem-solving.

BUILD CONFIDENCE

Children feel more confident in their mathematical abilities when they have a solid grasp of times tables.

They'll be up for tackling more challenging mathematical tasks and increase their success and enjoyment of Maths!



Children from Year 2 onwards have a password to access Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS). Have a look at this video to get you started. <https://ttrockstars.com/parents/>

Remember, practicing little and often is the best approach. Just 3 minutes a day, 4-5 days a week, will help these facts become second nature.

Have a lovely half term break. We look forward to seeing you back in school, ready for Autumn 2 (otherwise known as the busiest half term of the year!) on Tuesday 5th November 2024. As it's an INSET day on Monday, children have an extra day to practice their times tables!

Very best wishes,

Mandy Ovenden



ROBINS

Robins Class were very excited to start woodwork in our outside area. The children have learnt how to safely use a hammer and nails to attach objects (buttons, beads, shiny paper) to balsa wood. Robins Class have been very sensible and have thoroughly enjoyed having a go! We look forward to continuing this after half term.

You can see more photos here: <https://www.wherwellprimary.co.uk/gallery/?pid=66&gcatid=22>



PUFFINS

Thank you to all of the parents and family members who were able to come along to Puffins Learning Outcome this week, I'm sure that you will agree that they have worked extremely hard on their playground equipment pieces.

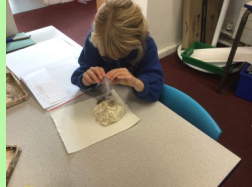
We concluded our Geography Unit this week by working together to create 3D maps of the school grounds. The children looked very carefully at an aerial photo of the school on Google Earth and then set to work to create their own maps. This also consolidated the work that they had done on maps at home.





KINGFISHERS

Kingfishers have had an incredibly exciting week this week. In our learning about rocks, we have learnt a new word: 'permeable'. We tested some rocks to see if they were permeable and allowed water to pass through them. We discovered that some rocks might let water pass through more slowly but they are still permeable.



We had our parent sharing session this week which we really enjoyed.

Thank you to all the parents who were able to come to celebrate all our hard work!



SPARROWHAWKS

We have had a creative week in Sparrowhawks. We've taken our fable writing in English to the next level by turning these stories into engaging, moving books. The students have brought their creativity to life, crafting tales that come alive through movement and imagination.

In Spanish, we've been revisiting how to introduce ourselves and talk about our likes and dislikes. To make it even more fun, we created our own Lego characters to help us express our ideas!





HOUSE MARTINS

House Martins have enjoyed practising their cooking skills in DT this week. They are preparing to make their survival wraps on Friday! Their aim is to create a wrap which will sustain them for as long as possible if they were left alone in the Amazon Rainforest.

In PE, we have been practising our problem solving skills in teams. This week, we were challenged to build the sturdiest house we could out of 5 hoops. Having made our hoop houses, we had a great time attacking other team's houses and defending our own!

We've also been practising grating, cutting and peeling - just in time for the children to help out in the kitchen over the half-term break!



We would like to thank Mrs Michelle Lane for her time as Early Birds Assistant and wish her and the family all the best as they start a new life in the United States. We are however, pleased to welcome Miss Pamela Brown who is our new Early Birds Assistant. Miss Brown has had a full handover from Mrs Lane and is very much looking forward to spending time with the children at breakfast club!



Welcome too, to Mr Bucknall who joins the school's governing body as a co-opted Parent Governor and our thanks to Mrs Eliot and Mrs Orvis for their hard work before recently stepping down.



A huge thank you to Andy Smith for organising the working party to clear the gutters (or as we prefer to think of them, elevated compost piles and small ball storage!) and clean some of the windows. These are costly jobs when we have to pay for them and this allows school funds to be spent where we believe they should be spent: educating the children in our care. At the time of writing we are not sure who came along to help, but we cannot thank you all enough!

We would also like to say a massive thank you to our parents for all the wonderful donations to the Harvest Festival. These were passed to the Andover Food Bank on Wednesday morning, and they too were very grateful. You were all incredibly generous at a time when we are all feeling the pinch, thank you!



Hampshire

Healthy Steps

Supporting Your Family's Health & Wellbeing

Hampshire Healthy Steps is a new service for families with children aged 2 to 12 years in Hampshire, with the vision of promoting healthier childhoods.

Find Out More...

- www.hampshirehealthysteps.org.uk
- Hampshire Healthy Steps
- @hampshirehealthysteps



BARNARDOS

Funded by Hampshire County Council

Meccano day at Middle Wallop!



30th October 2024 10.00 to 15.00



Come and join us for an interactive day of Meccano! Meccano is an interactive building tool that can be used in an incredible number of exciting ways. Come and see some amazing creations, and have a go at creating your own Meccano models in our atmospheric hangar.

This exciting experience does not have to be pre-booked and is included in our standard entrance prices.

armyflying.com 01264 781086

Half term fun!

28th Oct to 1st Nov

Space Week

Join us for a week of fun Space themed activities including crafts and a trail, each weekday between 10.00 and 12.30.

29th Oct and 3rd Nov
MODEL MAKING
10.00 TO 15.00

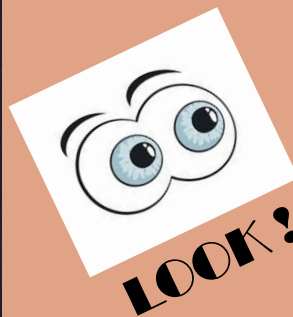
30th Oct
MECCANO IN MIDDLE WALLOP!
Come along and see some fantastic Meccano models and have a go yourself!
10.00 TO 14.00

armyflying.com 01264 781086

Cashpot for Schools



Parentkind have teamed up with Asda, who is making millions of pounds available to donate to primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative – all you have to do is, opt in through the Asda Rewards app, choose our primary school and shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com, between 2nd September and 30th November 2024



LOOK! A new tombola drum designed, made and donated by students at British Aerospace, Portsmouth. A big shout out to the Plumbridge family for making this happen - our raffles have never been so well engineered!

Diary Dates

Activity	Date
Half Term Holiday	Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November
Inset Day	Monday 4th November
Year 6 Height and Weight checks	Wednesday 6th November
Open Morning - 2025, Year R intake	Friday 8th November 10:45am
Walk to Wherwell War Memorial	Monday 11th November 10.45am (volunteer walkers needed!)
Perform for Schools visit, Robins	Tuesday 12th November
Individual Photographs - Fraser Portraits	Thursday 14th November
Parents Evening	Tuesday 26th November 3:30 - 7pm
Parents Evening	Wednesday 27th November 3:30 - 5:30pm
Sparrowhawks cake sale	Thursday 28th November
Christmas Trees - order on PTA website by 26th November	Saturday 30th November (collect from school)
Pantomime visit, whole school - details to follow	Thursday 5th December
Puffins and Kingfishers Nativity - details to follow	Monday 9th December 6pm Tuesday 10th December 2pm
Robins Nativity - details to follow	Wednesday 18th December 2pm
Whole School Carol Service, Wherwell Church - details to follow	Thursday 19th December, 6pm
Half Term	Monday 17th to Friday 21st February
Inset Day	Monday 24th February
Bikeability, Year 6	Monday 3rd & Tuesday 4th March
Easter Holidays	Monday 7th to Monday 21st April
Avon Tyrell residential, years 4 and 5	Monday 28th April to Friday 2nd May
Harewood Run	Monday 5th May
Inset Day	Monday 2nd June
Summer Fete	Sunday 6th July
Inset Day	Monday 14th July